

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 03562 142028Z

67

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03

INR-10 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SPC-03

OMB-01 DRC-01 /146 W

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O 141930Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3142

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS KINGSTON 3562

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, JM

SUBJECT: CCM MINISTERS ACT ON SUGAR QUOTA

1. IN A BID TO HEAD OFF THE PROPOSED U.S. REDUCTION OF THE CARRIBBEAN SUGAR QUOTA THE CARRIBBEAN COMMON MARKET COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AT THEIR INAUGURAL MEETING IN KINGSTON ON OCTOBER 12 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY A RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS DECISION TO REDUCE THE DOTBEAN SUGAR QUOTA AT LEAST UNTIL FURTHER TALKS BETWEEN THE USG AND THE CARRIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS CAN BE HELD ON THIS SUBJECT. TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION FOLLOWS.

2. QUOTE

...GREAT CONCERN

" THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CARICOM COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

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OBSERVES WITH GREAT CONCERN THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF A DRASTIC REDUCTION IN THE WEST
INDIES SUGAR QUOTA FOR 1974, 23,803 TONS:

"NOTES THAT THE REASON STATED, NAMELY, THE INABILITY OF THE
WEST INDIES COMPLETELY TO FULFIL THE ENTIRE 1973 QUOTA ALLOCATION,
IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE UNDERSTOOD INTENTIONS OF THE
U.S. SUGAR ACT OF 1948 AS AMENDED:

"STRESSES THE VITAL IMPORTANCE OF THE SUGAR INDUSTRY TO THE SOCIAL
AND ECONOMIC SURVIVAL OF THE CARRIBBEAN REGION, BEING BY
FAR THE LARGEST SOURCE OF EMPLOYMENT IN AN AREA OF SMALL
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BEDEVILLED BY VERY HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT
RATES;

"RECALLS THAT A SERIES OF REPRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE
U. S. A. AUTHORITIES, EXPLAINING THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND
COMMITTING THE WEST INDIES TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MEET FUTURE
QUOTA ALLOCATIONS--WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF SUGAR REHABILI-
TATION PROGRAMMES ALREADY UNDERWAY WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSIST-
ANCE;

"RESOLVES THAT THE CARICOM COUNCIL REQUEST THE U.S.
AUTHORITIES NOT TO IMPLEMENT THE ANNOUNCED QUOTA REDUCTIONS
AND TO WITHHOLD FINAL ACTION UNTIL TALKS BETWEEN THE U.S.
AND CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN CONCLUDED."
UNQUOTE. HEWITT

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